

Agriculture Adventures for Families

Winter's cold and snow drives away some specialty animals we see at warmer times of the year, including birds. Some of the birds we feature this month can be found in the wild, while others are domesticated for breeding, eggs, meat and fiber. We couldn't share all the interesting facts such as a male duck is known as a Drake (an adult female duck is a hen or a duck, and a group of ducks can be called a raft, team, or paddling), but hope you enjoy learning about these feathered friends.

Specialty Animals

Quails

Quail are small, plump, ground nesting birds in the Phasianidae family. Quail can fly short distances, but they spend most of their time on the ground. Some quail are found on farms and domesticated for their meat and egg production. Quail used for their meat, feathers, and high-quality eggs. Quail eggs are high in iron, protein, and vitamins!



Fun Fact: Quail can lay 10 to 20 eggs per clutch.



Rheas



The rhea is the large South American bird and is closely related to ostriches and emus. Rheas are flightless birds with long, powerful legs. Their large wings are used for balance and for changing direction as the rhea runs. Rheas and emus are alike with their three-toed feet while ostriches only have two-toed feet. Adult rheas are desirable for their meat, feathers, oil, and leather.

Emus

These native Australian flightless birds were born to run with their long and powerful legs. Emus are the second-largest birds in the world. Female emus lay 5—15 avocado-green eggs per clutch. An emus body contains 3 gallons of oil. Emu oil is used in lotions, soaps, shampoo, and healthy care products.



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Source: IL Ag in the Classroom



If you like birds, check out *Hatching Chicks in Room Six*, the Agriculture Literacy theme for the 100th anniversary Open House on March 28th.

This learning station will include newborn chicks, facts on the lifecycle of chicken hatching, egg candling and a take home craft for children (clucking egg cup).

Birds

Ducks



Duck is a common name for a large number of species in the *Anatidae* family.

Domestic ducks are primarily raised for egg and meat production. The average duck egg is roughly the same size as the jumbo chicken egg and has slightly greater amounts of vitamins and minerals.



Fun Fact: Instead of "teeth", ducks have serrations (saw-like edges) on their bills.



Ostriches

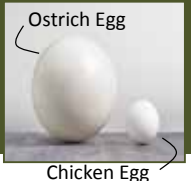


Ostriches are flightless, swift running, African birds with long necks and long legs. They are the largest and heaviest birds in the world typically weighing 140-290 pounds and measuring 6-9 feet in heights. The common ostrich is raised on farms around the world, mainly for its feathers. It's skin is used for leather products and its meat is sold as a delicacy in many parts of the world.



Fun Facts:

- An ostrich can run up to 43 miles per hour.
- The ostrich is the world's largest flightless bird.
- Ostriches lay in the largest eggs of any bird at 15 cm long. One ostrich egg can weigh as much as two dozen chicken eggs.



Ostrich Egg
Chicken Egg



Choose your prize:

Choices include a \$25 Beggar's Pizza Gift Card, a \$25 Home Run Inn Gift Card, OR *3 AMC Movie Tickets *AMC Yellow tickets not valid in California, New York & New Jersey.

Complete the Word Search puzzle for your chance to win! Winners will be contacted by mail.

Mail to: Cook Co. Farm Bureau

Ag Adventures Word Search

6438 Joliet Rd

Countryside, IL 60525

Fax to: 708-579-6056

Email to: FBcooperator@gmail.com

Complete and submit an entry every month all in 2020 and your name is automatically entered into an "End of Year" drawing for a gift basket full of ag themed goodies. Good luck!

Last Month's Word Search Winner Is.

Darlene Boomsma

February Word Search

F P R E Z M I M X S D G G E A
 X E M E L H P N N P O R K Y C
 P U A P H X Y O Z S M W X O R
 S P P T F T I U D S E H G A B
 Z N Q E H T A E F E S C Q J X
 G U G R A E L E D L T T X X S
 E T T R F I R S L T I U D A W
 X H R E C H W S Z H C L X D U
 E E R A A T N F C G D C M R B
 S Y C P J H N S V I X U L Y I
 T Y W L G S Q B P L F I C J R
 S P E C I A L T Y F A H X K D
 P Z M I M O U V A U R H E A S
 H C I R T S O J Q R X E A P O
 C D W F C J V R U K Q S O P Q

- | | |
|----------|------------|
| Birds | Flightless |
| Clutch | Leather |
| Delicacy | Oil |
| Domestic | Ostrich |
| Ducks | Quail |
| Egg | Rheas |
| Emus | Serrations |
| Feathers | Specialty |

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Membership #: _____

(Membership # is located on front of paper)

If you were to win, check your preference:

___ Beggar's Pizza GC ___ HRI GC ___ 3 Movie Tix
 (If a choice is not made, movie tickets will be sent)

Deadline is the 20th of each month.